



Recovery News

April 6, 2007

OVER \$7.7 MILLION IN DISASTER AID APPROVED FOR ALABAMA

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – More than \$7.7 million has been approved for assistance to homeowners, renters and businesses, announced officials of Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

These funds come in the form of grants from state and federal programs for personal losses. Low-interest disaster loans obtained through the U.S. Small Business Administration provide money for individuals to repair and rebuild homes and for small businesses to rebuild and recover.

Below is the summary of federal aid programs for the seven Alabama counties affected by the storms and tornadoes as of close of business Wednesday, April 4, 2007:

- **1,900** households have registered for Individual Assistance.
- **\$1,408,263** has been approved through the Individuals and Household Program. Of that, FEMA has provided **\$985,114** in Housing Assistance and **\$423,149** in Other Needs Assistance (ONA).
- **\$6,271,600** in loans has been approved by the SBA for homeowners, renters, individuals and business owners affected by the severe storms and tornadoes. As of April 3, **\$5,786,600** has been approved for home loans and **\$485,000** has been approved for businesses.
- **1,965** people visited the nine Disaster Recovery Centers.

Homeowners, renters and business owners in Coffee, Dale, Dallas, Henry, Jefferson, Montgomery and Wilcox counties who sustained damage from the March 1 tornadoes can register for assistance by calling **(800) 621-FEMA (3362)**. Those with impaired speech or hearing can call **TTY (800) 462-7585**. Applicants also can register online at www.fema.gov. The deadline is May 2.

FEMA's temporary housing assistance and grants for medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses do not require individuals to apply for an SBA loan. However, applicants who receive SBA loan applications must submit them to SBA Customer Service Representatives to be eligible for assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.

(MORE)

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Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, economic status or retaliation. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, you should call FEMA toll-free at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or contact your State Office of Equal rights. If suspicious of any abuse of FEMA programs, please contact the fraud hotline at 1-800-323-8603.

FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

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Editors: For more information on Alabama disaster recovery, visit www.fema.gov or ema.alabama.gov /